

Appl. No.

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n and m independently represent 0 or 1, and Xaa is V or L;

X1 and X2 are independently defined as follows

X1 is GVKETPQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 3), or  
VKETPQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 4), or  
KETPQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 5) or,  
ETPQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 6) or,  
TPQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 7) or,  
PQQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 8) or,  
QQKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 9) or,  
QKYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 10) or,  
KYQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 11) or,  
YQROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 12) or,  
QROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 13) or,  
ROLLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 14) or,  
LLHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 15) or,  
LHEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 16) or,  
HEVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 17) or,  
EVQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 18) or,  
VQELTT (SEQ ID NO: 19) or,  
QELTT (SEQ ID NO: 20) or,  
ELTT (SEQ ID NO: 21), or  
LTT, or  
TT, or  
T;

and

X2 is AKQLAAL (SEQ ID NO: 22), or  
AKQLAA (SEQ ID NO: 23), or  
AKQLA (SEQ ID NO: 24), or  
AKQL (SEQ ID NO: 25), or  
AKQ, or  
AK, or

Appl. No.

: 09/782,816

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A;

and

Y1 and Y2 are independently defined as follows

Y1 is GEKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 26), or

EKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 27), or

KETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 28), or

ETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 29), or

TPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 30), or

PVQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 31), or

VQKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 32), or

QKCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 33), or

KCQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 34), or

CQRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 35), or

QRLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 36), or

RLQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 37), or

LQIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 38), or

QIEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 39), or

IEMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 40), or

EMNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 41), or

MNELLN (SEQ ID NO: 42), or

NELLN (SEQ ID NO: 43), or

ELLN (SEQ ID NO: 44), or

LLN, or

LN, or

N; and

Y2 is VATVISTAR (SEQ ID NO: 45), or

VATVISTA (SEQ ID NO: 46), or

VATVIST (SEQ ID NO: 47), or

VATVIS (SEQ ID NO: 48), or

VATVI (SEQ ID NO: 49), or

VATV (SEQ ID NO: 50), or

Appl. No. : 09/782,816  
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VAT, or  
VA, or  
V, and

derivatives thereof having at least about 90% identity with SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In a preferred embodiment, the peptide has one of the following sequences: GVKETPQQKYQRLLEHVQELTTEVEKIKTTVKESATEEKLTPVXaaLAKQLAAL (SEQ ID NO: 51), where Xaa is as defined above, or GEKETPVQKCQRLQIEMNELLNEVAALQVDRKVADEEKQSYDAVVATVISTAR (SEQ ID NO: 52), or has at least about 75%, preferably at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 85%, even more preferably at least about 90%, most preferably at least about 95% identity with one of these sequences. Preferably, the peptide variants contain only conservative amino acid substitutions compared to the reference peptide sequences.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Figure 1 is the amino acid sequence of human p50 (SEQ ID NO: 53), wherein the peptide of SEQ ID NO: 51 (Xaa is L) is bolded and underlined.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figure 2 is the partial amino acid sequence of mouse p50 (SEQ ID NO: 54), wherein the peptide of SEQ ID NO: 51 (Xaa is V) is bolded and underlined.--

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows: